

except those above permitted by special act. All such general laws and special acts may be altered from time to time or repealed; and the General Assembly may at any time by special act repeal the charter of any corporation.

Alteration or repeal of general or special acts.

Special acts for repeal of charters.

SEC. 2. *Debts of corporations, how secured.* Dues from corporations shall be secured by such individual liabilities of the corporations, and other means, as may be prescribed by law.

Debts of corporations, how secured.

SEC. 3. *What corporations shall include.* The term "Corporation," as used in this article, shall be construed to include all associations and joint-stock companies having any of the powers and privileges of corporations not possessed by individuals or partnerships. And all corporations shall have the right to sue, and shall be subject to be sued, in all courts in like cases as natural persons.

What corporations shall include.

SEC. 4. *Legislature to provide for organizing cities, towns, etc.* It shall be the duty of the Legislature to provide by general laws for the organization of cities, towns, and incorporated villages, and to restrict their power of taxation, assessment, borrowing money, contracting debts, and loaning their credit, so as to prevent abuses in assessment and in contracting debts by such municipal corporations.

General laws for organization and government of municipalities.

ARTICLE IX

EDUCATION

SECTION 1. *Education shall be encouraged.* Religion, morality, and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged.

Education shall be encouraged.

SEC. 2. *General Assembly shall provide for schools; separation of the races.* The General Assembly, at its first session under this Constitution, shall provide by taxation and otherwise for a general and uniform system of public schools, wherein tuition shall be free of charge to all the children of the State between the ages of six and twenty-one years. And the children of the white race and the children of the colored race shall be taught in separate public schools; but there shall be no discrimination in favor of, or to the prejudice of, either race.

General Assembly shall provide for schools.

Separation of the races.

SEC. 3. *Counties to be divided into districts.* Each county of the State shall be divided into a convenient number of districts, in which one or more public schools shall be maintained at least six months in every year; and if the commissioners of any county shall fail to comply with the aforesaid requirements of this section, they shall be liable to indictment.

Counties to be divided into districts.